

Hearing Officer
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Environmental Management

Martin Huebner
Director

August 20, 1998

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Subject: Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP) - DOE/EIS-0290-D.

My name is Martin Huebner, a resident of Sun Valley, Idaho. I am a licensed professional engineer, a member of the Board of Directors of the Idaho Academy of Science, and a member of Coalition 21, a pro-science/pro-technology group of public-spirited volunteers. I have reviewed the subject document. Please include the following comments in the hearing records on the subject issue, and consider them for incorporation in the Final EIS.

Simply put, the AMWTP as described and assessed in the subject document is a well-defined activity. It will be suitable to deal with a specific matter, namely the treatment of materials for disposal of low-level mixed waste, alpha contaminated low-level mixed waste, and transuranic waste. Employment of the AMWTP will resolve the long-standing issue of removal of these materials from Idaho.

The DEIS is generally adequate as is! I recommend that the DOE promptly convert it to a final EIS. Do not be deterred from this by recommendations of individuals and groups with an agenda of not wanting resolution of nuclear waste issues. Recommendations that are irrelevant to this issue, will be noted (as feasible) and appropriate technical rebuttals to them provided in formal written comments to DOE by the comment deadline.

As, envisioned and assessed in the DEIS, the AMWTP will support DOE compliance with the 1995 Waste Agreement, and moving waste out of Idaho. (Idaho citizens demonstrated their overwhelming support for such activities via defeat of a "Stop the Shipments" initiative in 1996 elections.) Also noted is that the risk to the public and the operators by AMWTP operations will be minimal and acceptable.

Therefore, the AMWTP operations will resolve the long-standing issue of removal of these materials from Idaho, and by doing so, support the 1995 Waste Agreement.

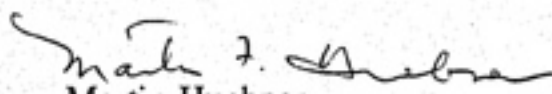

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EXHIBIT #1
AMWTP DEIS
Twin Falls, ID
August 21, 1998
Name: Marty Huebner